



STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION, ROOM 372
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

10:00 AM

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Montaña, Vice Chairperson Bacio, Commissioner Bigby, Commissioner Hall, Commissioner Hammargren and Commissioner Moore

Excused: Commissioner Hill

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Meeting to be called to order by Chairperson Montaña, followed by a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence. (10-3046)

Chairperson Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Approval of the December 8, 2010 minutes. (10-3047)

On motion of Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Moore and unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Recommendation to approve a \$100.00 donation to Holy Helping Hands, to assist foster children. (10-3064)

On motion of Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Moore and unanimously carried, the Commission approved a \$100 donation to Holy Helping Hands. Vice Chairperson Bacio presented a \$100 check to Commissioner Hall on behalf of Muzet Hall charity, Holy Helping Hands.

II. REPORTS

4. Chair's Report on newspaper articles, or newsworthy items. (3048)

Chair Montaña presented Captain Asmus a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Commission on his forthcoming promotion to Commander.

5. Treasurer's Report for December 15, 2010. (10-3055)

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$541.09.

6. Roundtable Discussion (10-3057)

Department of Auditor Controller:

Cassandra Youngblood, Auditor Controller, reported that 90% of the recently created County of Los Angeles Children's Group Home Ombudsman posters have been distributed to Group Homes with expectations of delivering 100% by the end of the month. She distributed the brochure, You have RIGHTS too!, for the commission to review. Letters have also been disseminated to Group Homes indicating presentations to the residence will be held regarding the Ombudsman program (i.e., foster children's' personal rights as governed by the State of California).

Department of Children and Family Services:

Dorothy Channel, Department of Children and Family Services, reported that there were 5 referrals: 3 were evaluated out; 1 was unfounded; and 1 is pending. There were 367 AWOLs. Star View and Dangerfield (3 sites) Group Homes were placed on hold on November 23, 2010; Investigation of a death of a young girl residing at Star View Group Home is being scrutinized, and Dangerfield Group Homes' investigation is reportedly on violations and repeat offences. In response to inquiries, Ms. Channel acknowledged the resignation of the Department's Director, Patricia Ploehn.

Following discussion, Commissioner Moore requested a copy of the corrective action plan for Star View Group Home.

Internal Services Department:

William Kiriya, Internal Services Department, reported that the goal is to respond in a timely manner in 90% of the time. Calls received and responded to within 2 hours have a 67-76% completion rate, and calls received and responded to within 3 hours have a 90% completion rate.

Department of Mental Health:

There was no representation.

Probation Department:

Staff advised that Ms. Lisa Campbell-Motton e-mailed a report on Commission inquiries (copy on file) and noted that she and her alternate are not able to attend today's meeting.

Sheriffs Department:

Deputy Jason Ford, LASD, distributed on behalf of Commander Ruiz, the Inmate Assaults on Staff report for the Commission's review (copy on file). Also, Deputy Ford reported that reflective tape was distributed to most of the Sheriff Station jails with placement instructions. The Commission was pleased to know that his Division is also working on getting reflective tape in the courthouse jails.

Captain Asmus, LASD, reported they are replacing a good majority of the air packs due to health/bacteria concerns at a cost of \$2,000 each. Also, procuring extra air packs to address maintenance on inventory is planned. Further, the Redondo Beach Courthouse is closed; four court construction projects are underway; the Long Beach Courthouse construction should be completed in 2014; and plans for Mental Health, South East and Santa Clarita Courthouses are to be drafted soon.

Captain Asmus invited Commissioners to visit the Pasadena Courthouse to observe individual temporary cells for Title 23 compliance.

In response to inquiries, Captain Asmus advised that the best way to report collusion/fraud is to report it to the DCFS Group Home Performance Management division; criminal activities can be reported to the Sheriff's Department. Commissioners Hall and Moore advised that, following a review of the Needs and Services Plan at Sand Hill GP Home, Inc., discovered a discrepancy in the dates visited by the therapist. Ms. Channel noted that therapist services are provided by an independent contracted organization, and any fraudulent filing would be reported to the CCL (licensing board); Ms. Channel was provided a copy of the Plans.

Following discussion, the Commission requested that Ms. Channel provide a status update on Sand Hill GP Home, Inc., and Ms. Channel suggested that Commissioners report discrepancies at the time of inspection. She agreed to provide the Commission with pertinent phone numbers.

Commissioner Bigby noted that Chatsworth's seven year old courthouse/jail facility has 300 cell lock-ups that have not been used. Captain Asmus agreed to research this concern and report back to the Commission.

7. Staff Report on Legistar 5 update; Correspondence received; and Department Representatives Reports. (10-3058)

Lee Millen, Head Staff, reported that Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation Department, would not be attending the meeting, however, a member of her

staff scheduled to attend in her stead had a personal emergency to address. Also, County Counsel was contacted regarding having Group Home Reports showing names, and whether it was considered confidential. Commissioner Hammargren advised that the meetings are open to the public, thus making it public information, and any discussion which includes names or specific incidents would cause the Commission to excuse the public and go into Executive Session. The Commission concurred.

8. Commissioner Reports on Group Homes and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from December 8, 2010 to December 14, 2010. (10-3059)

T & T Home for Boys – 43, #1 - Chairperson Montaña The facility was visited on December 13, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition. Area of Concern: Seven day non-perishables supply is very low.

Star View Group Home – 42, #4 - Chairperson Montaña The facility was visited on December 14, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Sonya Love Guidance – 41, #3 - Commissioner Moore
Commissioner Moore contacted Ms. Reed, staff of Sonya Love Guidance Center by telephone on December 13, 2010, and was informed by her that all areas of concern have been corrected.

You are the Difference Foundation #2 – 47, #3 – Commissioners Hall and Moore The facility was visited on December 14, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Touch A Life Foundation – 43, #4 - Commissioners Moore and Hall The facility was visited on December 9, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition. Areas of Concern: Update disaster drills, the bath tubs need refinishing, repair stove burner and purchase matching dishes and utensils.

Norwalk Sheriff's Station – Vice Chairperson Bacio The facility was visited on December 9, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition. Area of Concern: Deteriorating cell floor needs repairing.

Norwalk City Court House – Vice Chairperson Bacio and Commissioner Hammargren The facility was visited on December 14, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition. Area of Concern: Update certification for air tanks.

Chatsworth Court – Commissioner Bigby The facility was visited on December 14, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Burbank Court Service – Commissioner Bigby The facility was visited on December 10, 2010, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

9. New Business/Announcements given by Commissioners. (10-3060)

There was no discussion or action taken.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not On The Posted Agenda

10. Items not on the posted agenda, to be presented and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future Commission meeting.

There was no discussion or action taken.

Public Comment

11. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

12. **Adjournment**

Adjournment for the meeting of December 15, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.